

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It is also a BLATANT example of media manipulation favoring one candidate over another - a candidate, who, incidentally, has strong financial ties to Sinclair. This makes a MOCKERY of the very democracy this Administration claims to be "spreading" throughout the world, and sets us yet one more step towards Corporate Fascism.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is OBLIGATED BY LAW to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Thomas Jefferson clearly foresaw that this kind of unchecked, uncontrolled marketeering would lead invariably to tyranny - and that's EXACTLY what's happening!

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.